

Practitioner's Docket No.: 796\_003 DIV1

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: Toshikazu HIROTA and Takao OHNISHI

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: LIQUID DROPLET EJECTION APPARATUS AND LIQUID DROPLET  
EJECTING METHOD

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 5, 2004 under "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EV 406992438 US.

  
Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

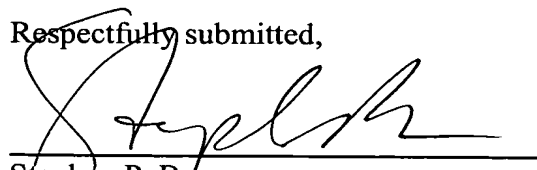
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. These references were cited during prosecution of parent application U.S. Ser. No. 09/884,457, and copies of each of the references can be found in the PTO file for the parent application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these listed references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

February 5, 2004

Date

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Form PTO-1449  US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Confirmation No.					
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket No.	796_003 DIV1

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
	AA	5,437,255	08-01-1995	Sadley et al.			
	AB	4,907,748	03-13-1990	Gardner et al.			
	AC	4,067,496	01-10-1978	Martin, B. J.			
	AD	5,248,087	09-28-1993	Dressler, John L.			
	AE	5,823,428	10-20-1998	Humberstone et al.			
	AF	6,347,441	02-19-2002	Yun et al.			

### U.S. COPENDING APPLICATIONS

Exam. Initial		Application Number	Our Docket No.	Filing Date	Inventor Name	Class	Sub Class

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation	Abstract
	AF	54-090416	7/18/1979	Japan				X
	AG	04-134176	5/8/1992	Japan				X
	AH	1 093 857 A1	April 25, 2001	EP				
	AI	2000-52552	Feb. 22, 2000	JP				X
	AJ	6-55739	March 1, 1994	JP				X
	AK	4-24657	Feb. 27, 1992	JP				
	AL	1 093 837 A1	April 25, 2001	EP				

### OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages etc.)


Examiner:	Date Considered:
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.